

Appl. No. 10/788,478
Amtd. dated December 29, 2005
Reply to Office action of July 29, 2005

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 10 are pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended to correct typographical error in the term "antiglutaminergic" and to add the word "consisting" after "selected from the group". Claim 7 has been amended to correct typographical error in the term "antiglutaminergic".

With respect to the rejection to claims 1 to 10 under 35 USC 103(a), reconsideration by the Examiner is respectfully requested on the following grounds.

The Applicants hypothesis was that simultaneous pharmacological targeting of three major pathological events (excitotoxicity, inflammation and alteration in calcium homeostasis) associated with neuronal cell death in stroke would have synergistic effects on neuroprotection. The Applicants are aware that all of the tested drugs exert certain neuroprotective potential in ischemia. However, up to date there is no published evidence of successful three-therapy application (anti-inflammatory drug in combination with glutamate antagonist and calcium channel blockers) in experimental stroke. Thus, the Applicants' approach represents a novelty. In addition, the Applicants demonstrated that a three-drug cocktail strategy provides significantly better neuroprotection than any of the cocktail components tested alone (see Fig. 1A and B, see enclosed manuscript by Weng and Kriz). The Applicant's results were confirmed in two different types of ischemic injury. Moreover, surprising results were obtained in the model of permanent focal ischemia (which represents about 95% of human stroke pathology). Analysis of the results revealed that although treatment with Riluzole and Nimodipine did not affect the size of infarction, the combination of three drugs together conferred significantly better neuroprotection than treatment with

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minocycline alone suggesting a pharmacological synergy between the three compounds (see Fig. 1B of the enclosed manuscript).

Therefore it is respectfully submitted that neither Yrjanheikki et al. nor Lai et al. teach the three therapy application.

The Applicants submit that no new matter has been added by the present amendments.

It is submitted, therefore, that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the Examiner's rejections is respectfully requested. Allowance of claims 1 to 10 at an early date is solicited.

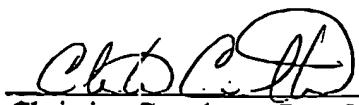
In the event that there are any questions concerning this amendment or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

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No additional fees are believed to be necessitated by this amendment.
However, should this be an error, authorization is hereby give to charge Deposit
Account No. 19-5113 for any underpayment or to credit any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 12/20/05

By: 
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Enclosures